

More than 11 million workers would benefit under this proposal, and a full-time, year-round worker at the minimum wage would get a \$1,800 raise—the equivalent of 7 months of groceries for the average family.

To reform the Nation's welfare system, we should make work pay, and this legislation would help achieve that result. It would offer a raise to families that are working hard, but struggling to make ends meet. Most individuals earning the minimum wage are adults, and the average worker affected by this proposal brings home half of the family's earnings. Numerous empirical studies indicate that an increase in the minimum wage of the magnitude proposed would not have a significant impact on employment. The legislation would ensure that those who work hard and play by the rules can live with the dignity they have earned.

I urge the Congress to take prompt and favorable action on this legislation.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, February 13, 1995.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:24 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 7. An act to revitalize the national security of the United States;

H.R. 667. An act to control crime by incarcerating violent criminals;

H.R. 728. An act to control crime by providing law enforcement block grants; and

H.R. 831. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the deduction for the health insurance costs of self-employed individuals, to repeal the provision permitting nonrecognition of gain on sales and exchanges effectuating policies of the Federal Communications Commission, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that pursuant to the provisions of 22 United States Code, 1928a, the Speaker appoints the following Members to the United States Group of the North Atlantic Assembly on the part of the House: Mr. BEREUTER, Chairman, Mr. SOLOMON, Vice Chairman, Mr. REGULA, Mr. BATEMAN, Mr. BLILEY, Mr. BOEHLERT, Mrs. MEYERS of Kansas, and Mrs. ROUKEMA.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and second times by unanimous consent and referred as indicated:

H.R. 7. An act to revitalize the national security of the United States; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 667. An act to control crime by incarcerating violent criminals; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 728. An act to control crime by providing law enforcement block grants; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 831. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the deduction for the health insurance costs

of self-employed individuals, to repeal the provision permitting nonrecognition of gain on sales and exchanges effectuating policies of the Federal Communications Commission, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time and placed on the calendar:

S. 376. A bill to resolve the current labor dispute involving major league baseball, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. THURMOND, from the Committee on Armed Services:

General James B. Davis, United States Air Force, Retired, of Florida, to be a Member of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission for a term expiring at the end of the first session of the 104th Congress, vice Beverly Butcher Byron, term expired.

Wendi Louise Steele, of Texas, to be a Member of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission for a term expiring at the end of the first session of the 104th Congress, vice Harry C. McPherson, Jr., term expired.

Benjamin F. Montoya, of New Mexico, to be a Member of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission for a term expiring at the end of the first session of the 104th Congress, vice Arthur Levitt, Jr., term expired.

S. Lee Kling, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission for a term expiring at the end of the first session of the 104th Congress, vice Hansford T. Johnson, term expired.

Alton W. Cornella, of South Dakota, to be a Member of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission for a term expiring at the end of the first session of the 104th Congress, vice Peter B. Bowman, term expired.

Rebecca G. Cox, of California, to be a Member of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission for a term expiring at the end of the first session of the 104th Congress. (Reappointment)

(The above nominations were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed, subject to the nominees' commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second time by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. SIMON (for himself, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. D'AMATO, Mr. PACKWOOD, and Mr. HATFIELD):

S. 457. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to update references in the classification of children for purposes of United States immigration laws; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WELLSTONE (for himself and Mr. HARKIN):

S. 458. A bill to protect the opening of the 1995 season for the hunting of migratory

birds, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. BOND:

S. 459. A bill to provide surveillance, research, and services aimed at prevention of birth defects, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

By Mr. FORD:

S. 460. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to ensure equity in the extent to which businesses located near Interstate and Federal-aid primary highways may erect outdoor advertising signs, displays, and devices, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. GORTON:

S. 461. A bill to authorize extension of time limitation for a FERC-issued hydroelectric license; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. FEINGOLD:

S. 462. A bill to provide for the temporary suspension of the reformulated gasoline rules under the Clean Air Act; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. BREAUX:

S. 463. A bill to amend title 28, United States Code, with respect to the treatment of certain transportation and subsistence expenses of retired judges; to the Committee on Finance.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. SIMON (for himself, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. D'AMATO, Mr. PACKWOOD, and Mr. HATFIELD):

S. 457. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to update references in the classification of children for purposes of U.S. immigration laws; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

LEGISLATION TO FACILITATE INTERNATIONAL ADOPTIONS

Mr. SIMON. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce legislation to help individuals trying to adopt a child from a foreign country.

The adoption landscape has changed dramatically in this country over the past 25 years. While international adoptions continue to be a small part of total U.S. adoptions—about 15 percent—thousands of Americans pursue them every year.

Our law regarding international adoption is in a state of some confusion. U.S. law requires that a child be certified as an orphan in order to be eligible for adoption by an American and for an immigrant visa to the United States. This can be accomplished in one of two ways: proof that both parents are dead or; irrevocable release by a sole parent for adoption and emigration. Under U.S. law, a sole parent is the mother of an illegitimate child. Many countries, however, have stopped using the term illegitimate, as have many States in this country. Children born in such countries to parents who are not married are now considered legitimate but born out of wedlock. Technology, these children are no longer eligible for adoption and emigration to the United States, even if the child's father has abandoned him or her.